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Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims without prejudice, as follows and consider the subsequent remarks/arguments. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-69 (canceled)

70. (Currently amended) A method for a framework manager to provide installation management in a network-based supply chain framework between at least two independent business entities such as service providers, vendors, resellers, manufacturers and the like, the method comprising:

causing a framework manager using a network to:

- (a) receive information via the network including information relating to a service provided by a service provider from the service provider;
- (b) receive information via the network including information relating to manufacturer offerings by a manufacturer from the manufacturer;
- (c) use and evaluate the information provided by the service provider via the network and the manufacturer to match the service to the offerings; and
- (d) use the service and manufacturer offerings information to manage installations.

71. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 70, further comprising the framework manager using the network to:

manage collaboration between the matched service provider and the manufacturer by facilitating the transmitting of information between the matched service provider and the manufacturer.

72. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 71, further comprising the framework manager using the network to:

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provide a collaborative planning tool for managing the collaboration between the matched service provider and the manufacturer.

73. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 70, further comprising the framework manager using the network to:

facilitate milestone-based project planning between the matched service provider and the manufacturer.

74. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 70, further comprising the framework manager using the network to:

display the manufacturer offerings of the matched manufacturer to the matched service provider using the network, and display the services provided by the matched service provider to the matched manufacturer.

75. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 70, wherein the information of the manufacturer includes information relating to the availability of the manufacturer offerings.

76. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 75 further comprising the framework manager using the network to:

notify the service provider of the availability of the manufacturer offerings that match a service installation.

77. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 72 for milestone-based project planning during installation management in a network-based supply chain environment, further comprising:

- (a) displaying on a display a pictorial representation of an existing service including a plurality of components;
- (b) presenting on the display a first set of components that are to be delivered for an installation in a first phase by indicia coding the first set; and
- (c) presenting on the display a second set of components of the installation that are to be delivered for the installation in a second phase by indicia coding the second set in a manner unique with respect to the indicia coding of the first set.

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78. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 77, further comprising:
presenting a legend which defines the indicia coding with respect to the phases of
delivery of the components.
79. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 77, wherein the components of
the existing service are selected from the group of components including security services,
network services, web services, client services, integration capabilities, data services,
directory services, management services, operation services, and developer services.
80. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 77, wherein the components of
the existing service are selected from the group of components including commerce-related
services, content-related services, administration-related services, customer-related
services, and education-related services.
81. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 77, wherein the indicia coding is
selected from the group of indicia coding including texture coding, color coding, and shading
coding.
82. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 70 for interacting with a client
user in the network-based environment during installation management in order to enhance
visibility, further comprising:
- (a) identifying a client user;
 - (b) collecting information about the client user, wherein the information relates to
the installation of a service;
 - (c) building a profile of the client user based on the collected information;
 - (d) managing a plurality of different contents;
 - (e) analyzing the profile and the contents in order to match attributes of the
profile of the user and attributes of the contents;
 - (f) selecting the contents which have attributes that match the attributes of the
profile of the client user; and
 - (g) delivering the selected contents to the client user.

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83. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 82, further comprising analyzing the profile in real time.

84. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 82, further comprising:
identifying a time when the user last viewed the contents, and indicating portions of the contents that have been modified or added since the time when the user last viewed the contents.

85. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 82, further including the user by using a cookie, receiving user input, and digital certificates.

86. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 82, further comprising:
allowing the user to rate the contents.